

REGISTERED NURSE, CHARGE

1. PSYCHIATRIC (4285)
2. MEDICAL (4286)

I. NATURE OF WORK:

A Registered Nurse, Charge is responsible for nursing care in a ward, cottage or unit on an assigned shift at a State facility. The employee supervises the Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, nonlicensed nursing and support staff assigned to the work area on an assigned shift. A Registered Nurse, Charge, Psychiatric provides nursing care in a psychiatric setting. A Registered Nurse, Charge, Medical provides nursing care in a medical setting.

Employees receive general supervision from a higher-level nurse. Employees may be assigned to day, evening, night or rotating shifts which may include holidays and weekends. Employees may be subject to call-in and overtime based on staffing needs. The work is usually performed in a residential or inpatient treatment facility providing twenty-four hour care. Employees are required to observe infection control precautions in order to prevent contamination and spread of disease. The work may require lifting and positioning nonambulatory patients and lifting wheelchairs and other heavy equipment. The work may require long periods of standing, walking, bending and reaching.

The Registered Nurse, Charge is differentiated from the Registered Nurse in that the Registered Nurse, Charge is in charge of nursing care for a designated work area on a particular shift and supervises assigned staff which may include Registered Nurses. The Registered Nurse, Charge is differentiated from the Registered Nurse Supervisor in that the Registered Nurse Supervisor is responsible for the twenty-four hour supervision of a unit or is a shift supervisor for several wards.

II. EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Examples are illustrative only)

Supervises subordinate licensed and nonlicensed nursing personnel and support staff caring for patients in a designated area on an assigned shift;

Evaluates nursing care given in an assigned area;

Assigns responsibilities to nursing personnel according to nurse services guidelines;

Interprets and implements nursing, personnel and facility/agency policies;

Participates in evaluation of the overall nursing program in a unit;

Participates in interdisciplinary planning for the total therapeutic program;

Performs quality assurance monitoring of the health care provided in one or more programs;

Monitors utilization of services for appropriateness in assigned program(s);

Investigates complaints regarding patient care and possible health law violations;

Provides direct nursing care as needed;

Performs other related duties.

III. REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of the principles and practices of registered nursing;

Knowledge of theory of registered nursing practice;

Knowledge of the nursing process;

Skill in the application of the nursing process;

Skill in measuring the effects of nursing intervention;

Skill in providing accurate documentation and record keeping;

Skill in assessing physical, emotional and social needs of patients;

Skill in developing a plan of care for the patient;

Skill in observing the effects of nursing measures;

Skill in providing accurate nursing documentation;

Ability to supervise others;

Ability to assess the utilization of health care services;

Ability to evaluate quality of care rendered in specific health care settings;

Ability to explain program policies and procedures to professional health care providers and to the public;

Ability to exercise judgment in delegation of responsibilities to team members according to their abilities and experience;

Ability to explain long-term and short-term goals of nursing care to team members, patients, and families;

Ability to coordinate policies and procedures with nursing administrative personnel;

Ability to work effectively with patients, professional and nonprofessional workers and the general public.

IV. MINIMUM EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

Education: Determined by the Maryland State Board of Nursing under the licensing requirements for Registered Nurses.

Experience: Two years of experience as a registered nurse, one year of which must have been in the option for which application is made.

- Notes:
1. A bachelor's degree in nursing or a related field from an accredited college or university may be substituted for one year of general experience.
 2. A master's degree in nursing or a health-related field from an accredited college or university may be substituted for the two years experience.

V. LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS AND CERTIFICATES:

1. Candidates for positions in this classification must possess a current license as a Registered Nurse from the Maryland State Board of Nursing, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215.
2. Persons appointed to positions in this classification may be assigned duties which require the operation of an automobile. Employees assigned such duties will be required to possess a motor vehicle operator's license valid in the State of Maryland, and their driving records will be subject to investigation.
3. Persons appointed to positions in this classification may be required to successfully complete cardiopulmonary resuscitation training and maintain current certification.

VI. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE CLASSIFICATION:

1. Some positions in this classification are assigned duties which require the individual to be examined by a physician. After an offer of employment applicants for such positions will be given a medical examination to certify the ability to perform essential job functions.
2. Persons appointed to positions in this classification may be required to provide the facility with a telephone number at which they can be reached.
3. Employees in this classification are subject to substance abuse testing in accordance with Code of Maryland Regulations 06.01.09, Testing for Illegal Use of Drugs.

Date Revised: July 16, 1993

Class specifications are broad descriptions covering groups of positions used by various State Departments and agencies. Position descriptions maintained by the using departments or agency specifically address the essential job functions of each position. Specifications reviewed and amended for ADA compliance_____.

APPROVED:

Assistant Secretary, Human Resource
Management and Development

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